

R 142206Z JUL 06  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ABUJA  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY DHAKA  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
AMEMBASSY KIEV  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
AMEMBASSY TIRANA  
AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR

UNCLAS STATE 116138

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MASS PHUM](#)

SUBJECT: LEAHY HUMAN RIGHTS VETTING REQUIRED FOR ALL GPOI  
ACTIVITIES

REF: A. 05 STATE 111757

[B](#). 05 STATE 21314

[C](#). 03 STATE 34981

[D](#). 05 STATE 131486

[1](#). (U) Summary: The Department requests that all Posts participating in the Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) conduct human rights vetting for related training and activities as mandated by the annual Foreign Operations Appropriations Acts (FOAA) (Section 551 in the FY 2006 FOAA). Please see paragraph 4 for detailed instructions on vetting procedures. End Summary.

-----  
BACKGROUND  
-----

[2](#). (U) The Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) is a five-year initiative to train peace operations troops around the world, train stability police units (SPU) to participate in peace operations, and provide deployment support through an international mechanism. For more information, please see ref tel A. Addressees are GPOI partners and thus need to follow certain provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, as well as other legislative mandates.

[3](#). (U) Section 551 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations Act for FY 2006, P.L. 109-102 (FOAA), includes a provision commonly referred to as the Leahy Amendment that states: "None of the funds made available by this Act may be provided to any unit of the security forces of a foreign country if the Secretary of State has credible evidence that such unit has committed gross violations of human rights, unless the Secretary determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the government of such country is taking effective measures to bring the responsible members of the security forces to justice."

[4](#). (U) In order to comply with the Leahy Amendment, State has issued policy guidelines that require Posts to perform human rights vetting for all units and individual members receiving FOAA-funded training or assistance. Participating

in GPOI activities requires such human rights vetting as well. The Department encourages Post to consult "A Guide to the Vetting Process" located on the SIPRNet at <http://aces.state.sgov.gov> and reftels B and C for detailed guidance on Leahy vetting procedures and information. The human rights vetting process may be summarized under the following steps which are detailed more fully in reftels B, C and D:

(a) U.S. Embassy investigates unit/individual for human rights violations by reviewing files and databases, including the Abuse Case Evaluation System (ACES) database.

(b) If derogatory information is found on an individual presented for vetting, the officer at Post tasked with the vetting will enter that information into the ACES database (please see ACES user manual for complete instructions on how to use ACES located on the SIPRNet at <http://aces.state.sgov.gov>).

(c) The U.S. Embassy cables the regional bureau at the State Department with search results and requests a similar review of the Department's files/databases.

(d) Information on the unit/individual is circulated to appropriate personnel in the State Department, including the Bureaus of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL); Intelligence and Research (INR); and Political-Military Affairs (PM) for review.

(e) If no credible derogatory information is found, the regional bureau sends a reply cable to Post indicating that no credible derogatory information has been found and the individual/unit may participate in training/assistance.

(f) If credible derogatory information is found, the regional bureau sends a reply cable to Post indicating that credible derogatory information has been found and the individual/unit may not participate in training/assistance. Any ongoing training/assistance will be terminated immediately.

15. (U) The Department points of contact for GPOI are: PM/PPA Rachel Featherstone (202-647-7092), Christina Rosati (202-647-3034), and Michael Smith (202-647-7714). The Department point of contact for Leahy vetting is: PM/PPA Nicole Porreca (202-647-4998).

End text.

RICE